

OAKWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1895.

Area, 11,905 acres; *Rateable Value* (1895), £20,979; *Inhabited Houses* (1871), 1,284; (1881), 1,337; (1891), 1,373; *Population enumerated* (1871), 5,683; (1881), 5,769; (1891), 5,870; (*Estimated* 1895), 5 910.

Inspection of District.—All parts of the District have been regularly inspected during the past year, and special visits of inspection have been made in connection with outbreaks of infectious disease. It will be seen on reference to Table VI. that a large number of nuisances have been dealt with.

Reduction of District.—On March 12th, 13th, and 14th, an Inquiry was held at Keighley by the Local Government Board, under Major-General Phipps Carey, R.E., into a proposed extension of the borough of Keighley, involving the absorption of certain portions of the Oakworth District, viz.:—High and Low Utley, Blackhill, Braithwaite, and portions of Exley Head, Brackenbank, and Damems on the N.W. side of Keighley, and Stoekbridge and portions of Thwaites, Thwaites Brow, and the whole of Moss-Carr on the S.E. and S. This comprises an area of about 2,705 acres, with an estimated population of 900, and a rateable value of £6,182. An Order was subsequently granted, which took effect on November 9th last. Since the transfer took place so late in the year, this report is based upon the old area and population.

Sanitary Condition and Progress.—Water Supply.—The Keighley water supply is extended to Oakworth, Lane Ends, and Utley, and laid into most of the houses. At Stanbury the majority of the houses have water piped into them by the owner of the property. At Braithwaite, Laycock, Goose Eye, Oldfield, Newsholme, Damems, Fell Lane, Brackenbank, Long Lee, and Thwaites, the inhabitants obtain their supply from springs and shallow wells, and in a few instances it is laid into the houses, but in most cases has to be fetched for a considerable distance. No extensions nor additional works of water supply have been undertaken during the year.

Sewerage and Drainage.—The only places in the District where proper sewerage schemes have been provided are Oakworth proper and High and Low Utley. At Oakworth this year a short further extension was laid, and house connections made therewith, from Station Road through Doekroyd, consisting of about 120 yards of 9-inch sewer, with manholes and lamp-holes. In other parts the rubble highway drains are made to act as sewers, and the private drainage is also constructed for the most part of rubble. In houses of recent erection the drains are laid in sanitary pipes and are properly disconnected. In many of the older houses there are no slopstones, but grates are provided outside.

Excrement and Refuse Disposal.—The common privy-midden is the method of excrement disposal chiefly in use throughout the District. Of the large and uncovered type a few examples still remain. All privies of recent erection are constructed upon proper principles. A number have been provided with moveable receptacles. Since the introduction of the sewerage scheme at Oakworth, a number of Duckett's Patent Waste-Water Closets have been put in, and 19 additional ones have been constructed this year. At Utley the removal of night-soil and ash-pit refuse is done by contract, and the work has

been well done, and was re-let for £38. The scavenging of Oakworth was undertaken by contract in 1893, and the work was again re-let in March to Mr. Squire Shuttleworth for one year for £95. The scavenging area is continuous with the special drainage district of Oakworth proper. In other parts the scavenging is for the most part dependent upon tenants, and in a few instances is undertaken by the larger property-owners.

In connection with the scavenging, the following were removed:—Number of loads of dry ashpit refuse, 416; number of loads of mixed ashes and nightsoil, 135; number of pails emptied, 2,284.

Byelaws, &c.—The byelaws previously in force in this District, which were sanctioned in 1873, were repealed in 1889, and the Board adopted the model byelaws, with certain modifications, with respect to “New Streets and Buildings,” “Slaughter-Houses,” “Common Lodging-Houses,” the “Cleansing of Earth Closets, Privies, Ashpits, &c.,” and “Cemetery.”

This Authority issued a series of Regulations under the “Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1886,” which came into force on May 1st, 1889.

Acts of Parliament adopted.—The “Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889,” was adopted by this Authority, and came into force on the 1st of February, 1890. The Board in 1893 adopted Part III. of the “Public Health Act (Amendment) Act, 1890.”

Infectious Hospital.—This Authority has no means for the proper isolation of cases of infectious disease, nor for the stoving and disinfection of infected bedding, &c. The Board should decide to combine with the Keighley and Bingley Authorities in their permanent scheme. This question has been again discussed, and again the Council has declined to join. I would point out that in the event of this Authority’s failing to combine with the scheme, which embraces districts on both sides of theirs, it will sooner or later devolve upon this Council to provide a hospital for their district alone, which will involve a much greater expenditure.

Population.—At the census of 1871 the population was 5,683, and that of 1881 was 5,769. The census of 1891 showed the population to be 5,870, living in 1,373 houses. I have estimated it up to the middle of 1895 to be 5,910, living in 1,540 houses, or an average of 3·8 per house.

Births.—The total births registered were 142 in number (71 males and 71 females). This is a decrease of 6 from last year, and is equivalent to an annual birth-rate of 24·0 per 1000 living, as compared with 25·0 last year, and 25·2 in 1893. The natural increase to the population is 47.

Deaths.—The total deaths returned were 95 in number (44 males and 51 females). This is a decrease of 4 from last year, and is equivalent to a death-rate of 16·0 per 1000 living, as compared with 16·7 last year, and 17·8 in 1893.

The deaths were distributed among the quarters of the year as follows:—

	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.
1884	19	25	25	17
1885	40	34	27	19
1886	20	34	16	28
1887	36	22	33	20
1888	30	27	24	33
1889	21	21	19	31
1890	33	30	23	25
1891	30	42	23	24
1892	33	25	24	29
1893	34	23	24	24
1894	24	25	23	27
1895	29	25	18	23

The mortality as to age was as follows:—

		Keighley Parish. Stanbury.			
Deaths under	1 year of age.....	12	2	}	28 under 5 years of age.
„ over	1 year and under 5 ..	13	1		
„ „	5 „ 15 ..	5	..	}	67 over 5 years of age.
„ „	15 „ 25 ..	6	1		
„ „	25 „ 60 ..	16	2		
„ „	60.....	35	2		
Total		95			

Tables A and B of the Mortality and Sickness in the Oakworth Urban Sanitary District for the twelve calendar months ending December 31st, 1895:—

TABLE A.

NAME OF DISEASE.	Total Deaths registered in District.				Total.	
	Keighley Parish.		Stanbury.			
— 5 means under 5 years of age.....	—5	+ 5	—5	+ 5	—5	+ 5
+ 5 means over 5 years of age						
Smallpox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Searlatina	2	..	..	..	2	..
Diphtheria .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Croup (not “spasmodic”)	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
“Continued” Fevers.	Typhus.....		..	..	..	..
	Enteric or Typhoid.....		..	3	..	3
	Of other or doubtful .....		..	..	..	..
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	1	..	..	..	1	..
Cholera .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rheumatic Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pyæmia .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ague .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Influenza .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Phthisis .....	..	11	1	1	1	12
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy	6	18	1	1	7	19
Heart Disease.....	1	8	..	..	1	8
Injuries	1	1	..	..	1	1
Diseases not named above.....	14	21	1	3	15	24
Total.....	25	62	3	5	28	67

TABLE B.

NAME OF DISEASE.	New Cases of Sickness.			Institutions.
— 5 means under 5 years of age	—5	+ 5	Total.	No Hospital or other Public Medical Institution in the District.
+ 5 means over 5 years of age				
Smallpox . . . . .	..	..	..
Scarlatina	3	1	4	
Diphtheria . . . . .	..	..	..
Membranous Croup . . . . .	..	..	..
Typhus . . . . .	..	..	..
Enteric or Typhoid . . . . .	..	4	4
Fevers . . . . .	..	..	..
Continued . . . . .	..	..	..
Relapsing . . . . .	..	..	..
Puerperal . . . . .	..	1	1
Cholera . . . . .	..	..	..
Erysipelas . . . . .	..	6	6
Total	3	12	15	

The following Tables, I. to IV., are uniform with those of previous years:—

TABLE I.

Table showing population, births and deaths for the years 1884-95 inclusive, together with average for period of ten years 1878-87:—

Year.	Population estimated to middle of the year,	Births.	Deaths.
1884	5,800	119	86
1885	5,810	125	120
1886	5,820	140	98
1887	5,830	166	111
Average for Decade, 1878-87.	5,821	151	106
1888	5,830	142	114
1889	5,840	139	92
1890	5,900	148	111
	CENSUS		
1891	5,870	151	119
1892	5,880	154	111
1893	5,890	149	105
1894	5,900	148	99
1895	5,910	142	95

TABLE II.

Table showing the annual birth-rate, rates of mortality, death-rates among children, and deaths in public institutions during the twelve years 1884-95 inclusive, and the average for the decade 1878-87 :—

Year.	Birth-rate per 1000 of the population.	Annual Rate of mortality per 1000 living.	Deaths of Children under 1 year ; percentage of total deaths.	Percentage of deaths of Children under 1 year to registered births.	Deaths of Children under 5 years ; percentage of total deaths.	Total number of deaths in Public Institutions.
1884	20·5	14·8	20·9	15·1	27·8	..
1885	21·5	20·6	16·6	16·0	27·5	..
1886	24·0	16·8	13·2	9·2	17·3	..
1887	28·4	19·0	25·2	16·8	36·0	..
Average for decade 1878-87.	25·8	18·2	19·2	13·5	29·2	..
1888	24·3	19·5	14·0	11·2	28·0	..
1889	23·8	15·7	15·2	10·0	28·2	..
1890	25·0	18·8	18·9	14·1	25·2	..
1891	25·7	20·2	14·2	11·2	26·8	..
1892	26·1	18·8	21·6	15·5	36·0	..
1893	25·2	17·8	19·0	13·4	29·5	..
1894	25·0	16·7	20·2	13·5	34·3	..
1895	24·0	16·0	14·7	9·8	29·4	..

The birth-rate is lower than it has been since 1889, and is below the average. The general death-rate has only been lower in the years 1889, 1884, and 1883. The infant mortality has only been lower in 1886 and 1883. Among persons aged 60 years and upwards, there were 37 deaths, or a percentage to total deaths of 38·9.

Mean Age at Death.—The mean age at death this year was 39·6 (38·5 for males and 41·1 for females), as compared with 33·2 last year and 37·0 in 1893.

TABLE III.

Table showing number of deaths certified by registered medical practitioners, uncertified deaths, and inquests, with their percentage to total deaths, during the years 1893, 1894, and 1895.

	Total Deaths.			Percentage of Total Deaths.		
	1893	1894	1895	1893	1894	1895
Certified.....	96	94	89	91·4	94·9	93·6
Uncertified.....	6	2	5	5·7	2·0	5·2
Inquests.....	3	3	1	2·8	3·0	1·0

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS IN 1895.

Locality.	Sex.	Age.	Cause Assigned.
Laycock	F	13 months	Measles, Convulsions.....
Long Lee	F	69	Heart Disease, Dropsy
Oakworth	M	73	Heart Disease
Damems	F	76	Bronchitis
Stanbury	F	2 months	Probably Convulsions

TABLE IV.

Table showing the mortality from certain classes of diseases, and proportions to population and to 1000 deaths, in the years 1893, 1894, and 1895.

	Total Deaths.			Deaths per 1000 of Population.			Proportion of deaths to 1000 deaths.		
	1893	1894	1895	1893	1894	1895	1893	1894	1895
1. Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases....	8	5	6	1.3	0.8	1.0	76.1	50.5	63.1
2. Pulmonary Diseases (other than } Phthisis)	13	19	26	2.2	3.2	4.3	123	191	273
3. Tubercular Diseases	20	15	20	3.3	2.5	3.3	190	151	210
4. Wasting Diseases of Infants.....	7	6	3	1.1	1.0	0.5	66.6	60.6	31.5
5. Convulsive Diseases of Infants	11	6	4	1.8	1.0	0.7	104	60.6	42.1

NOTES.

1. Includes Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Fever, and Diarrhœa.

3. Includes Phthisis, Scrofula, Rickets, and Tabes.

4. Includes Marasmus, Atrophy, Debility, Want of Breast-milk, and Premature Birth.

5. Includes Hydrocephalus, Infantile Meningitis, Convulsions, and Teething.

Among the above classes of disease the largest increase in the number of deaths is that from Pulmonary Diseases. There has also been an increase this year in the deaths due to Tubercular Diseases. The numbers from Wasting and Convulsive Diseases of Infants are very small.

TABLE V.

Table showing the number of deaths from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases in the three years 1893, 1894, and 1895 :—

Disease.	Total Deaths.			Proportion of deaths to 1000 deaths.		
	1893.	1894.	1895.	1893.	1894.	1895.
Smallpox . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles . . . . .	..	1	2	..	10·1	21·0
Scarlet Fever	3	..	..	28·5	..	..
Diphtheria	3	^{Croup.} 1	..	28·5	10·1	..
Whooping Cough . . . . .	..	3	..	..	30·3	..
Fever	1	..	3	9·5	..	31·5
Diarrhœa	1	..	1	9·5	..	10·5
TOTALS	8	5	6	76·1	50·5	63·1

Six deaths were returned under the head of zymotic disease, as compared with 5 last year, and 8 in 1893. This is equivalent to a zymotic rate of 1·0 per 1000 living. Fifteen certificates were received during the year under the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, as compared with 19 last year, and 76 in 1893.

Measles.—Two deaths were registered from measles, and occurred at Laycock. This disease was prevalent at Laycock and Utley in January and February, and I had in consequence to recommend the closing of the Board Schools there. Measles is not included under the Notification Act in force, and therefore individual cases are not reported.

Scarlatina.—No death occurred from this cause, but four isolated cases were reported, one each in April and August, and two in October. Precautions were taken at the houses attacked, and there was no further spread.

Typhoid Fever.—Four cases were notified, of which three terminated fatally. The first of these occurred in May at Coppy Row, Lane Ends, and was that of a girl aged 18. No drainage nuisance was found on the premises, but the privy accommodation was insufficient. The next case, in July, was that of a lad aged 17, living at Moor Cottage, Two Laws. He was removed to the Keighley Workhouse Infirmary. The disease in this case appeared to have been imported from Hebden Bridge. In September the death occurred of a man aged 29, a solicitor's clerk, of Keighley, in Cemetery Lane, Utley. The house was one of recent erection, and no insanitary condition was found on the premises, and it is probable that the disease was contracted elsewhere. The last case took place at Slippery Ford, Oakworth, in November, and was that of a man aged 24, a farm servant. There was no clue to the origin of this case discoverable. In all instances precautions were taken and disinfectants supplied.

Puerperal Fever.—One case was notified as “puerperal septicæmia,” in a woman of 34, who made a very rapid recovery.

Diarrhœa.—A single death was returned from diarrhœa in a child, aged fourteen months, in September.

Erysipelas.—Six cases of erysipelas were notified during the year. They occurred one each in February, March, April, May, August, and October. Of these one was a male and five females, and all were adults.

Mumps.—This disease was prevalent at Stanbury in December, and the Board School was closed in consequence for a fortnight.

Slaughter-houses, &c.—The *Slaughter-houses* and *Bakehouses* have been regularly inspected by the Inspector of Nuisances, and are fairly well kept. There is no *Common Lodging-house* in the District. No instance of *overcrowding* has been reported, nor has to my knowledge any *unsound meat* been exposed for sale. Among trades classified as *noxious trades*, there is one example, viz., a knacker's yard, situated at Bogthorn, but this is placed in an isolated position, and well-kept. The *Dairies and Cowsheds*, which are registered, have been inspected, and are fairly kept. *Legal proceedings* were taken against Joseph Staincliffe, under sections 36 and 91 of the Public Health Act, 1875, for property at Copy Row, Lane Ends, to abate a nuisance in connection with existing privies, and to provide further and more efficient privy accommodation. A conviction was obtained with costs.

In Table VI. will be found a list of the various nuisances abated, and minor sanitary improvements effected during the year:—

TABLE VI.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT OF THE SANITARY WORK, &c., completed in the year ending December 31st, 1895:—

	Oakworth	Stanbury	Laycock	Braithwaite Black Hill	Utley	Long Lee	Ingrow	Total
No. of Complaints received	3	..	..	1	2	1	1	8
No. of Houses, Premises, &c., inspected	420	..	..	..	..	..	..	420
House Drains repaired, cleansed, &c.	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	5
Ditto trapped and ventilated	40	..	..	3	6	1	..	50
Privies & Water Closets Repaired, cleansed, &c. . . . .	..	..	..	2	4	..	..	6
Privies and Water Closets supplied with Water	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Water Closets provided (21 Duckett's)	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Pail Closets provided	10	..	..	1	..	2	..	13
Privies provided	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Water Supply, Houses provided with	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Ashpits, new provided	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Ditto repaired, covered, &c.	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
No. of Ashpits ordered to be emptied	16	8	6	4	24	..	3	61
Removal of accumulation of Dung, } Stagnant Water, Animal and other } Refuse	3	..	..	..	2	..	..	5
Removal of Animals improperly kept . . . . .	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	2
Total No. of Summonses, or other Legal } Proceedings	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease	2	..	..	..	1	..	1	4
Slaughter Houses inspected	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Bakehouses Inspected	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Dairies and Cowsheds inspected	63	8	..	7	6	4	2	90

JULIUS SPENCER, Certified Inspector of Nuisances.

The matters requiring the attention of the Council are :—

- 1.—The completion of the Oakworth sewerage scheme.
- 2.—The provision of proper means of sewerage and sewage disposal for the villages of Laycock and Stanbury.
- 3.—The adoption of the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878.
- 4.—To consider the undertaking by contract of the removal of nightseil and ashpit refuse from Laycock and Stanbury.
- 5.—To join with the Keighley and Bingley Authorities in the provision of a permanent hospital for the proper isolation of cases of infectious disease, and of stoving apparatus for the proper disinfection of bedding, clothing, &c.

FRANCIS E. ATKINSON, L.R.C.P. (London), M.R.C.S.,
Medical Officer of Health.

To the Oakworth Urban District Council,
March, 1896.

OAKWORTH

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1895.